

Intimations.

VICTORIA REGATTA.
TWENTY-SECOND MEETING.FRIDAY AND SATURDAY,
21st and 22nd December, 1877.

PATRON.

His Excellency JOHN POPE HENNESSY, C.M.G.

VICE-PATRON.

COMMODORE WATSON, R.N.

STEWARDS.

H. B. GIBBS, Esq., Hon. W. KESWICK,
W. H. FORBES, Esq., Hon. Col. BARRANS,
R. HOPKINS, Esq., O.B.
G. B. EMERY, Esq.

COMMITTEE.

T. JACKSON, Esq., CHAIRMAN.
Major BRIDGEMAN, 28th Regt., Esq.,
H. E. WOODHOUSE, Esq.,
Lt. R. S. F. WALKER, Esq.,
E. L. WOODIN, Esq.,
DUDLEY C. TRAVERS, Esq., Honorary Secretary.

JUDGE.

J. P. McEVEN, Esq., R.N.

UNJURY.

ROWING..... Hon. C. O. SMITH.
YACHTS..... E. BEATT, Esq.
OPEN SAILING BOATS..... E. BURNIE, Esq.

STARTERS.

ROWING..... Hon. C. O. SMITH.
YACHTS..... E. BEATT, Esq.
OPEN SAILING BOATS..... E. BURNIE, Esq.FIRST DAY,
FRIDAY, 21st DECEMBER, 1877.FIRST RACE.—1 P.M.
Junior Sculls. For Single Pair Sculling Boats. Entrance \$5. Distance One Mile. Prize, "Broken Cup." Open to any one who has never won a Sculling Race in China and Japan.SECOND RACE.—1.30 P.M.
For Gigs pulled by European Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of any Regiment or Corps in Garrison, or by European Members of the Police Force. Distance One Mile. Entrance \$1. First Prize, \$15; Second, \$5. No time allowed for Oars.THIRD RACE.—2 P.M.
The "Chairman's Cup," for Four-Oared Canton Cutters. Distance One mile and a half. Entrance \$10.FOURTH RACE.—2.30 P.M.
For Men-of-War Gigs and Whalers. Distance One Mile. Entrance \$1. First Prize, \$15; Second, \$5. No time allowed for Oars.FIFTH RACE.—3 P.M.
"Ladies' Purse." For Single Pair Sculling Boats. Distance One Mile. Entrance \$5.SIXTH RACE.—3.30 P.M.
For House Boats. Gigs pulled by Chinamen. Distance One Mile. Entrance \$1. First Prize, \$15; Second, \$5. Time for Oars, 6 seconds per Oar.SEVENTH RACE.—4 P.M.
International Race. "Challenge Cup" presented by the Merchants of Hongkong—for Four-Oared Canton Cutters. To be won two consecutive years before being held. Distance One Mile. Entrance \$10.SAILING RACE.
For Men-of-War's Boats, any rig. Entrance \$2. First Prize, \$20; Second, \$10.YACHT RACE.
For all Yachts. Entrance \$5. Time allowed for Tonnage, 15 seconds per ton. Cup presented.SECOND DAY,
SATURDAY, 22nd DECEMBER, 1877.FIRST RACE.—1 P.M.
For Gigs pulled by European Non-Commissioned Officers and men of any Regiment or Corps in Garrison, or by European Members of the Police Force. Distance One Mile. Entrance \$1. First Prize, \$15; Second, \$5. Winner of Second Race on first day, and out-rigger Boats excluded.SECOND RACE.—1.30 P.M.
For House Boats. Gigs pulled by Chinamen. Distance One Mile. Entrance \$1. First Prize, \$15; Second, \$5. Winner of Sixth Race on first day, and out-rigger Boats excluded.THIRD RACE.—2 P.M.
"Members' Cup" presented by Members of "The Victoria Recreation Club"—for Four-Oared Canton Cutters. Distance One Mile and a half. Entrance \$10. Winner of "The Chairman's Cup" excluded.FOURTH RACE.—2.30 P.M.
For Men-of-War's Boats. Distance One Mile. Entrance \$1. First Prize, \$15; Second, \$5. No time allowed for Oars.FIFTH RACE.—3 P.M.
Senior Sculls. Cup presented by the Far-east Community. Distance One Mile. Entrance \$5. Winner of the "Ladies' Purse" excluded.SIXTH RACE.—3.30 P.M.
For Officers of H.M.S. Audacious against Fleet in harbour. Cup presented by the Members of the Hongkong Club, to be rowed in Canton Four. Distance One Mile. Entrance \$10.SEVENTH RACE.—4 P.M.
"American Cup" open to all Members and Honorary Members of the Victoria Recreation Club, to be rowed in Canton Four. Distance One Mile. Entrance \$10.SAILING RACE.
For all Open Boats. Chinese excluded. Entrance \$2. First Prize, \$20; Second, \$10.YACHT RACE.
For all Yachts. Entrance \$5. Time allowed for Tonnage, 15 seconds per ton. Cup presented by the Victoria Recreation Club.DUDLEY C. TRAVERS,
Hon. Secretary, Victoria Recreation Club,
Hongkong, 27th November, 1877.

To-day's Advertisements.

FOR NEW YORK.
The A.I. American Barkentine "SAMOS,"
O. H. BAYNE, Master, will load
here for the above Port, and
have early despatch.For Freight, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.,
Hongkong, December 4, 1877.

To-day's Advertisements.

FOR YOKOHAMA & HIOGO.

The British Steamship
"BERTHA,"
LANGLEY, Master, will be de-
spatched as above on WED-
NESDAY Next, the 5th Instant, at 5 p.m.,
instead of on TUESDAY, as previously
advertised.For Freight or Passage, apply to
Wm. PURTAN & Co.,
Hongkong, December 4, 1877. de5

FOR MANILA (DIRECT).

The Spanish Steamship
"MACTAN,"
Captain ENRIQUETA, will be
despatched for the above Port
on FRIDAY, the 7th Instant, at Noon.For Freight or Passage, apply to
J. Y. V. SHAW,
Agent,
Hongkong, December 4, 1877. de7FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND
CALCUTTA.The Steamship
"ARGYLE,"
D. Scott, Commander, will
be despatched as above on
TUESDAY, the 11th Instant, at 3 p.m.For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
Hongkong, December 4, 1877. de11FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND
CALCUTTA.The Steamship
"JAPAN,"
Captain H. DE SMIDT, will
leave for the above Ports on
TUESDAY, the 11th Instant, at 3 p.m.For Freight or Passage, apply to
DAVID HASSOON, SONS & Co.,
Agents,
Hongkong, December 4, 1877. de11

MONTHLY LINE.

THE AUSTRALIAN STEAM NAVI-
GATION COMPANY.For COOKTOWN and SYDNEY, taking Cargo
and Passengers for all AUSTRALIAN
and NEW ZEALAND Ports.The Company's Chartered
Steamer
"OCEAN,"
JOHN C. JAGGER, Commander,
will load for the above Ports, and be de-
spatched on or about December 28th, 1877.For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.,
Hongkong, December 4, 1877. de5

NOTICE.

ANY CLAIMS against the British steamer
"ZANZIBAR," must be sent in to
the undersigned before Noon on SATUR-
DAY, the 8th Instant, or they will not be
recognized.MELOHERS & Co.,
Agents,
Hongkong, December 4, 1877. de5

Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor
Owners will be Responsible for any
Debts contracted by the Officers or Crew
of the following Vessels, during their stay
in Hongkong Harbour:—APRINGTON, British barque, Captain G.
Cunningham.—Wheeler & Co.
CLYDEBURN, British ship, Captain E.
Shrewsbury.—Wheeler & Co.
COLORADO, American ship, Captain In-
gram.—Russell & Co.KATE CARRIE, British barque, Captain
James Wilson.—Melchers & Co.
BROOMHALL, British ship, Captain H.
Bate.—Russell & Co.CHARTER OAK, American ship, Captain
Staples.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
FORMOSA, German S.M. schooner, Capt.
Schweert.—Melchers & Co.ARGYLE, British steamer, Captain D.
Scott.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
ROBERTSON HAY, British barque, Captain
P. H. Nicholson.—Chinese.RAJANATTIANMAR, British str., Capt.
Geo. T. Hopkins.—Siemens & Co.
MARTHA JACKSON, British barque, Capt.
Logan.—Arnold, Karberg & Co.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.
Dec. 3, Koko, British barque, 360, Toner,
KARBERG & Co.
Dec. 3, Kato Waters, British barque,
580, W. F. Giese, Newchwang Nov. 24,
BEANS.—BOSSARD & Co.
Dec. 4, Malacca, British steamer, 1104,
H. E. Smith, Yokohama Nov. 27, Mail
and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Dec. 4, Maetan, Spanish steamer, 871,
A. Esquivela, Manila Dec. 1, General.—
J. Y. V. SHAW.Dec. 4, Assens, Danish brig, from
Whampoa.
Dec. 4, West Stanley, British steamer,
982, Runciman, Shanghai Nov. 30, Rice &
Cotton.—SIEMSEN & Co.
Dec. 4, 10 a.m., Rajanattianmar, British
steamer, 984, G. T. Hopkins, Shanghai
Nov. 30, a.m., General.—SIEMSEN &
Co.Dec. 4, Anna M. Small, American ship,
1033, Chas. E. Packer, San Francisco Oct.
26, General.—RUSSELL & Co.
Dec. 4, Martha Jackson, British barque,
503, Logan, Cardiff May 23, Coal.—
ARNOLD, KARBERG & Co.
Dec. 4, Villa de Rioverde, Spanish brig,
261, Camma, Hollo Nov. 17, Tobacco.—
BRANDAO & Co.Dec. 4, Margrethe, German barque, 388,
F. Miesner, Bangkok Oct. 24, Salt and
Rice.—ORDEN.
Dec. 4, Gollah, Siamese barque, 542, J.
Dentson, Chetoo Nov. 29, Beans.—
CHARRIS.Dec. 4, Nippon, British steamer, 808,
Walker, Swatow Dec. 3, General.—KWO
AMOROS.

DEPARTURES.

Dec. 4, Peng-shu-hai, for a cruise.
4, Chagrat, for a cruise.
4, Bombay, for Yokohama.
4, Puyon, for Canton.
4, West Stanley, for Canton.
4, Rajanattianmar, for Canton.
4, Telorah, for Shanghai.CLEARED.
Gordon Castle, for Shanghai.
Bertha, for Manila.
Telorah, for Coast Ports.

PASSENGERS.

Per Malacca, from Yokohama: for Shang-
ampon, Messrs H. G. Hermann, H. G.
Fonkwa, and G. G. Lohm, for Madras, J.
Native, for Hongkong, Mrs. J. P. Morris,
and 7 Chinese.Per Echo, from Newchwang, 3 Chinese.
Per Maetan, from Manila, 8 Chinese.
Per Rajanattianmar, from Shanghai, 68
Chinese.
Per Nippon, from Swatow, 178 Chinese,
and 8 European deck.Per Bombay, for Yokohama, Mr. Levy,
and 2 Chinese.
Per Telorah, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs.
Murray, Colonel Dilling, Messrs Stuart,
Barnard, G. B. Young, Strachan, Rely,
and Shookle.To DEPART.
Per Telorah, for Coast Ports, 100 Chi-
nese.

SHIPPING REPORTS.

The British barque Echo reports: Mo-
derate N.E. winds with cloudy weather
and confused sea.The British barque Kato Waters reports:
Left Newchwang on the 24th of November,
with fresh northerly breeze. On the 26th
at 4 p.m. passed Shanghai Promontory, on
the 28th at noon passed Barren Island, and
from there to Ocksen Island had light
variable winds and calm. From Ocksen
to port moderate monsoon with thick and
misty weather.The British steamer Malacca reports:
Fine weather throughout the passage.The British steamer Rajanattianmar re-
ports: First part strong N.W. winds and
heavy sea, latter part moderate N.E. winds
and cloudy weather throughout.The American ship Anna M. Small re-
ports: Had "fine weather" the entire
passage.The Siamese barque Gollah reports: Fine
weather and strong N.E. winds through-
out.The British steamer Nippon reports:
Light N.E. winds and thick atmosphere.
In Swatow—Star, Penang and Perak.

POST OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS.

MAILS will close:—
For YOKOHAMA and HIOGO.—
For BERTHA, at 4.30 p.m. To-morrow,
the 5th inst.For HOIHOW and HAIPHONG.—
For ALBA, at 5 p.m., on Wednesday,
the 5th inst. Carrying Mails for
Pakhoi and Hanoi.For MANILA.—
For MACTAN, at 11.30 a.m., on Friday,
the 7th inst.For YOKOHAMA & SAN FRANCISCO.—
For BEZGIG, at 2.30 p.m., on Saturday,
the 8th inst. instead of as pre-
viously notified.For STRAITS SETTLEMENTS and
CALCUTTA.—
For ALBA, at 5 p.m., on Wednesday,
the 5th inst.MAILS BY THE UNITED STATES PACKER.
The United States Mail Packet CITY OF
YOKO will be despatched on WED-
NESDAY, the 19th inst., with Mails
for Japan, San Francisco, and the
United States, which will be closed as
follows:—11 a.m. Registry of Letters ceases.
11.30 a.m. Post-Office closes.
11.30 a.m. Correspondence for Japan, the
United States, or Union Coun-
tries only may be posted on
board the Packet with Late
Fee of 12 cents extra Postage
until11.50 a.m., when the Mail is finally closed.
Hongkong, December 4, 1877. de19

MEMOS. FOR TO-MORROW.

Shipping.
Daylight.—Telorah leaves for Coast Ports.
5 p.m.—Bertha leaves for Yokohama, etc.
Goods per Zanzibar undelivered after
this date subject to rent.THE
HONGKONG DISPENSARY.Established A.D. 1841.
A. S. WATSON & Co.,
FAMILY & DISPENSARY CHEMISTS,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,
IMPORTERS.DRUGGISTS' Sundries, NURSERY REQUI-
SITES, TOILET REQUISITES, ENGLISH,
AMERICAN, and FRENCH PATENT
MEDICINES.MANUFACTURERS
of
Soda Water, Lemonade, Tonic Water,
Gingerade, Potash Water, Sarsaparilla
Water, and other Aerated Waters.The Manufactory is under direct and
continuous European Supervision.
Hongkong, June 1, 1876.The publication of this issue commences
at 5.55 p.m.

THE CHINA MAIL.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, DEC. 4, 1877.

This native and European prisoners re-
leased by the Governor from the Gaol on
the 1st instant, or whose cases will be
represented by His Excellency to the
naval and military authorities with a
view to their release, number altogether
about fifty. Of these twenty-five are
Europeans and twenty-four Chinese,
while six other natives are to receive a
partial remission of their sentences. The
case of the notorious offender Lee Lum
Kwai is said to be "reserved for further
consideration." In expressing a hope on
Saturday that His Excellency would not
release this scoundrel, we said that such
a step would almost create a panic among
certain of the Chinese. Those acquainted
with the circumstances under which Lee
was committed to penal servitude will
have little difficulty in understandingthe alarm that might be occasioned by
his release. The charge on which Lee
was convicted was, threatening to accuse
two brothers with murder, kidnapping,
and robbery with intent to extort money
from them. Lee's modus operandi was
as follows. In the first instance he
endeavoured to induce one of the brothers
to buy security for himself and relatives,
by selling some property he possessed at
Swatow, valued at \$10,000, for three-
tenths of its value—seven-tenths or
\$7,000, going as a bribe to the
mandarin, with whom Lee was or pro-
fessed to be on intimate terms. A bro-
ther of the prosecutors had already been
beheaded at Swatow for "building his
houses too high," so that there was some
reason for purchasing peace. This attempt
to extort money from the prosecutors
failing, the prisoner then threatened to
accuse them of murder with the apparent
object of getting them taken into custody
and handed over into the clutches of his
friend the mandarin. The prisoner
actually employed a solicitor in the
Colony to prefer charges at the Police
Court against one of the brothers,
and got down witnesses from Swa-
tow to depose to their guilt. He also
went further and desired a European
constable to arrest the prosecutors, as
they were "leaving for Macao," on the
charge of murder. The price demanded
by the prisoner for ceasing his persecu-
tions, or, as he put it, "saving the lives"
of the prosecutors, was the modest sum
of \$5,000. Lee was found guilty on five
counts, and the Chief Justice, apparently
to make his punishment doubly sure,
sentenced him to penal servitude for his
natural life on the first count, a similar
sentence on the fifth count, three years'
penal servitude on the second count, and
similar sentences on the third and fourth
counts—in all making two natural lives'
and nine years' penal servitude. Con-
sidering this man has only been in prison
a little longer than three years, it would
seem a most remarkable exhibition of
leniency to release him at the present
moment, leaving out of consideration the
nature of his offences, and the possible
consequences of his being again at large.
Had he succeeded in his schemes, and
got the two Amos handed over to the
tender mercies of the Chinese mandarin,
for it is preposterous to suppose that the
prisoner would have endeavoured to
renew the rendition of his victims with-
out some influential connivance on the
mainland to carry his plans to a practical
issue—the probability is that the two
unfortunate men would not only have
been despoiled of the whole of their
money, but have shared a similar fate to
that of their brother who had the indis-
cretion to "build his houses too high." We
do not know whether the prisoner's fellow
conspirators on the mainland are still
alive, but it is quite certain that the
release of the prisoner would create a
very uncomfortable feeling among some
of the Chinese in the Colony.The statement that the Roumanians
have occupied Lom Palanka is of im-
portance because, if true, it is a movement
that will tend to embarrass any attempt
of Osman Pasha to effect a retreat from
Plevna in the direction of Widdin—the
only line of retreat that now appears to
be at all feasible. Lom Palanka is, we be-
lieve, an open town about midway between
the fortresses of Widdin and Rahova,
on the highroad running between those two
places and along the banks of the
Danube. There are two great rivers
Lom in Bulgaria, one in the west, from
which the town to which we have just
been referring takes its name, and the
other in the east, where the Russians
have recently suffered several defeats.
The forces of 50,000 men being organized
at Adrianople is doubtless intended
chiefly for the defence of the Balkans
and towns in Roumelia. In mountain fast-
nesses and behind entrenchments these
raw levies, which they must necessarily
be in the main, will doubtless be almost
as valuable as better trained troops,
whom they can free for service in the
field. The evacuation of Orhanie by the
Turkish troops, announced in previous
telegrams, by no means leaves open the
road across the Balkans. The movement
has probably been executed to
secure better positions either for defence
or for protection against the rigours of a
winter in the mountains, which must
under any circumstances entail an im-
mense amount of suffering to both the
Turks and their opponents. There are,
if the maps accurately represent matters,
several strong mountainous positions in
the rear of Orhanie.

REUTERS TELEGRAMS.

[Supplied to THE "CHINA MAIL."]
(By Southern Route.)
London, 2nd Dec. 1877.The Mediterranean Squadron will winter
in Beika Bay.M. Gambetta has demanded of the Presi-
dent of the French Republic to renounce the
right of dissolving the Chamber of Deputies.
His demand has been rejected.

THE WAR.

Rouss Fezla is engaged in organizing a
force of 80,000 men at Adrianople.Ghazi Ahmed Mukhtar Fezla is reported
to be able to defend Erzeroum.The Roumanians have occupied Lom
Palanka: the Turks have retreated to
Widdin.According to a Russian official despatch
the Turks have abandoned and the Russians
have occupied Churn Bani, near Batoum.The expedition of His Holiness the Pope
has changed for the worse.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The Justices have been pleased to grant
the application of Mr. Sykes, for a renewal
of the license for the London Inn, the
woman having left the house.The British barque Kato Waters reports
the river at Newchwang still open when she
left on the 24th November. The last ves-
sel out of the river was the Nimrod.THERE are at present three of the men who
were injured by the Yesso explosion in the
Gael Hospital and we are glad to say that,
thanks to the kind and careful treatment
they have received, they are in a fair way
to recover. The two men who were kept at
the Civil Hospital have been discharged as
free from danger.At the Marine Court to-day Christo Zomble
and P. Carlo, seamen belonging to the
British ship Oneida, were charged with re-
fusal of duty. The defendants have already
been one month in gaol for refusal of duty,
and now persist in their refusal, saying
they wanted their discharge. Capt. Thom-
son sentenced them to 2 months' further
imprisonment with hard labour, at order of
the Captain.William Butler, a seaman belonging to
the British barque Oneida, was charged
by the Master of the vessel with refusal of
duty. Gilbert White, the master, said that
the defendant had been charged twice
before at this Court for refusal of duty.
The first time he was ordered, to forfeit 22
days' pay and on the 3rd Nov., he was
sentenced to one month's hard labour for a
similar offence. He was released from gaol
before the expiration of his sentence by
order of H.E. the Governor, and when he
returned on board the ship he at once
refused to hold a boat and refused to do
any more duty. Defendant had nothing
to say and was sentenced to six weeks' im-
prisonment with hard labour, at order of
the Captain.The advisability of connecting the far East
and remotest West with each other, and so
directly with the rest of the world by tele-
graph has long been admitted. The great
obstacle so far in the way has been spanning
so many thousand miles with one continuous
cable. It has now been decided to have an
intermediate station at Honolulu between
Japan and San Francisco, which now seem
likely very shortly to be bound together by
submarine cable. The project has been
taken up in earnest, the originator, Mr. Celso
Cesar Moreno, having found enthusiastic
supporters in San Francisco, where several
meetings had been held before the last
trans-Pacific mail left, and where a company
was to have been, and probably was, formed
and organized on the 8th of this month.Mr. Moreno proposes to lay the line to Hon-
olulu, thence to Japan, and finally to Shang-
hai, thence to connect with the European line,
and thus circling the globe with wires.
After the completion of this line it is the
intention of the projectors to stretch their
line to New Zealand, where a connection
would be made with the Australian and
Indian lines. The cost of the line to China
would be about \$7,000,000, which sum
would be subscribed by capitalists on the
Pacific coast or through the organization of
a stock company. Mr. Moreno is sanguine of
the success of his scheme.—Japan Gazette.

Police Intelligence.

(Both Magistrates sitting.)
Dec. 3, 1877.Michael Bolger, a seaman unemployed,
was fined \$2 or 7 days' hard labour for be-
ing drunk and behaving in a disorderly
manner, by abusing and singing near St.
Peter's Church during the time of Divine
Service.Michael Hart, a seaman unemployed, was
fined \$2 or 7 days' imprisonment for a similar
offence.—P.C. J. Stewart (No. 92) said
the defendant was very disorderly, challenging
every body to fight in the Salter's Home, and
committed an unprovoked assault on a lad
named Thomas Allen, who was lying in bed.

REFUSAL TO PRODUCE EVIDENCE.

Mok Alok, a ship coolie, was fined \$1
or 2 days' imprisonment for refusing to show
his pass to a Chinese Constable (No. 808).
He (defendant) said he would only show it
to a European Constable, and the Chinese
Constable therefore took him to the station.

OUTRAGEOUS BEHAVIOUR.

Pierre Guider, a seaman belonging to the
French man-of-war Atalante, was charged
with being drunk and assaulting the inmate
of a brothel, and fined \$1 or 2 days' im-
prisonment. He was further charged with
violently assaulting P. C. 871, who took him
into custody, and tearing his trousers, for
which he was fined \$2 and ordered to pay
20 cents amends or be further imprisoned for
4 days.A YIP SUBJECT FOR OBSERVATION!
George Henry Hamilton, described as an
Engineer unemployed, was charged with
being drunk and refusing to pay duty-duty
Pong Apoy, a ship coolie, No. 814, said
that at 6 p.m. last night the defendant left
Kwun Yee and engaged his chair.
Witness carried him to a public-house,
where he (defendant) remained until 8 p.m.;
he was then drunk, and witness carried him
to the Salter's Home. He had no money to
pay for the chair, so he was given into cus-
tody. Mr. May fined him 50 cents, and
ordered him to pay 50 cents amends to the
chair-coolies, or be imprisoned for 3 days.
The fine was paid.

MORE DRUNK.

Thomas Collins, a seaman belonging to
the American ship Tel. A. Guider, was
fined 50 cents and ordered to pay 10 cents
chair-hire.Alphus Lefebvre, a seaman belonging to
the French barque Puyon, was fined \$1 or
2 days' imprisonment for being found lying
drunk in the street.

CHARGE.

Tang Ahk, a seaman unemployed, was

charged on remand by Sergeant Maddox with
stealing sundry pieces of clothing. The pri-
soner admitted the charge and said he took
the clothes as he was sick and wanted to
raise money to go home. Four months' hard
labour.Chun Aing, a chair coolie, was charged
on remand with stealing a jacket, the prop-
erty of a passenger on board the steamer
Namoo. The prisoner denied stealing the
jacket, but Mr. May considered the charge
fully proven and sent him to hard labour for
three months.

GAMBLING.

Ho Yan-U, Chinn Akun, Cheung Akai,
Wong Achung and ten others were charged
by P.O. Tommy No. 80 with gambling at
house No. 6, Gilman Street. After hearing
the evidence of the constable and those who
accompanied him, Mr. May fined the 1st and
2nd defendants \$200 each, or six months'
hard labour; and 3rd and 4th, \$25 each, or
one month's hard labour. The other de-
fendants were discharged.

HIGH-HANDED RASCALITY.

Shuk Akang, a coolie, was charged under
the following circumstances. Li Chan Kwai,
an inmate of brothel No. 28 Square

me. I walked there. I afterwards saw a number of bodies at the dead-house at the Hospital, among them that of my brother. Dr. Ayres was next called, and said—“I am the Colonial Surgeon. I remember the morning of the accident on board the Yesso. (The Doctor's evidence was in substance the same as that given by him at the Coroner's Inquest.)

The evidence of Doctors Adams and Rogers was next taken, but as it was in substance the same as that given at the Coroner's Enquiry, and already published, we refrain from giving it.

Mr May then said he thought they should go on till 1 o'clock, and then adjourn till Thursday, but he left it to the convenience of counsel.

Mr Sharp said he should of course study the convenience of the Court, but he should like if they could begin later in the day. Messrs Francis and Breton both concurred in this, and suggested 11 o'clock, when they need not have any adjournment but go on till 4 o'clock.

To this Mr May agreed, and asked Mr Sharp if he had any more witnesses to call now.

Mr Sharp proposed to call one of the Doctors of the Tung Wah Hospital, when Mr Francis objected to his evidence being taken; he (Mr Francis) thought such evidence was quite irrelevant and was only wasting time. The witness in question could know nothing of Tang Asam. It was necessary to know what they were here to investigate. At present he was quite in ignorance. The evidence of Dr Rogers as to the death of Mr Haggat was quite irrelevant to the charge. If they were to investigate into the death of Mr Haggat, he (Mr Francis) might think it desirable to set up a defence as to the treatment he received, and would have examined Dr Rogers as to his manner of treatment. He thought that it was only the specific charge which appeared on the charge-sheet they could investigate.

Mr May said he thought he could say from long experience that the charge-sheet only showed the character of the charge or what the opinion of the officer who took the charge had as to the offence. In reply to Mr Francis's warning said if, whilst investigating a charge of burglary, it was found the offence was not burglary but something else, he would go on with the case.

Mr Francis said it would often be a great injustice to the accused, the first charge should be disposed of and another made.

Mr May said it was the practice here.

Mr Francis said that it might be the practice here, but it was nevertheless often a great injustice to the accused.

Mr Breton asked His Worship if, in the course of an enquiry a charge of murder cropped up which was shown occurred two years previously, he would investigate it then and there.

Mr May said he certainly would. He thought the evidence of the doctor should be taken if Mr Sharp wished it.

Mr Francis still thought it a waste of time.

Lum Tai Shie, a doctor at the Tung Wah Hospital, was then examined and proved the admission of ten injured men into the Hospital, eight of whom have since died. In cross-examination by Mr Francis he said—

I studied medicine at Tientsin. I was 10 years a student. I rubbed the patients with salad oil and powder of green peas. (Mr Breton observed that he ought to have had some roast lamb along with it.) The men who came from the Civil Hospital died as soon as they were admitted. I could not have cured them if they had come to the Tung Wah Hospital at first. I resided at the Hospital, and get 25 pence monthly and find myself. I gave internal and external medicine. I gave the patient ginseng and a decoction of roots. Mama Drie, the Serang on board the Yesso, was next called, and proved identifying the body of Mahomed Eop, the Malay who was killed; and the enquiry was then adjourned till 11 o'clock on Thursday morning, the 7th instant; the prisoners being admitted to bail as before.

(Before James Russell, Esq.)

LARRY.
Tam Atak, a coolie, was sentenced to 6 weeks imprisonment with hard labour for stealing a file.

DRUNKS AND CHAIR-HIRE AGAIN.

William Allen, a seaman belonging to H. M. S. Curlew, was charged with being drunk and refusing to pay chair-hire. He said he had paid 10 cents and the man had carried him only 100 yards. The chair-bearer declared he had carried the defendant for over an hour. Inspector Grey said the defendant was very drunk and refused to pay the chair. He looked him up for his (defendant's) own safety. Defendant said he had no money, but witness found \$1.50 on him. Fined 20 cents and to pay 25 cents arrears.

William Cornick, a seaman belonging to the British 3-m. schooner Vincent McDuff, was fined \$1 or 2 days' imprisonment for being drunk and assaulting, or, as the defendant styled it, "shaping," for, the constable who arrested him.

William Phillips, a seaman belonging to the British ship *Isles of the South*, was charged with being drunk and running about the Canton wharf threatening to strike people. He at length fell in the water and was picked up by the Police boat. Fined \$1 or 4 days' imprisonment.

Andrew Larsen, a seaman unemployed, was charged with being drunk and assaulting one Teo Asoo, a boy at the Sailor's Home, and was fined \$1 or 2 days' imprisonment.

William Ferguson, a seaman unemployed, was charged with a similar offence, and fined \$1 or 7 days' imprisonment with hard labour.

BREACH OF THE STAMP ACT.

The master of the *Shun Sui Hong*, No. 68 Bonham Strand West, was summoned at the instance of the Collector of Stamp Revenue for a breach of the Stamp Act, in that he gave a receipt for a sum of money exceeding \$10 without affixing a Stamp, as required by Section XXIII of Ordinance 12 of 1866. The case came on first on the 1st December, when Mr Lister, the Collector, said that it had come to his knowledge that there were several Chinese merchants who had neglected to use receipts stamped as required by the Ordinance. He (witness) had sent for them and cautioned them; but the defendant did not think fit to call upon him, so he took out the summons. When the case came on to-day the defendant was discharged with a caution, as Mr Russell was of opinion that the combined effect of Ordinance 10 of 1864 and the Stamp Ordinance acted as a bar to the proceedings, proceedings being taken six months after the offence was committed.

SUPREME COURT.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

(Before His Honour Mr Justice Snowdon.)

Dec. 4, 1877.
Meyer v. Richards and Company, \$900.—This case was again postponed till next Tuesday. Mr Johnson appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr Breton for the defendant.

Wisher v. Pustan and Co., \$1,600.—Mr Breton, who appeared for the defendants, again applied for the case to be postponed for the present, as the matter was practically settled. Mr Johnson, on behalf of Mr Sharp, who appeared for the plaintiff, consented to the further adjournment.

Lo Yu v. S. R. Nette, \$593.62.—This was a claim for balance of contract money for the building of a house. Mr Denney, for the plaintiff, said that a note of demand had been sent to the defendant about a month ago, but the defendant took no notice of it until this morning, when the plaintiff received a letter from the defendant, in which he stated that he had received several prohibitory orders in regard to the payment of the money over to the plaintiff, and that he was not liable to pay.

The defendant said he had received prohibitory orders to the amount of more than \$700, that he claimed a penalty from the plaintiff for delay in delivering the house, and that there were works which the plaintiff had not supplied or improperly performed, and that according to the agreement the differences should have been referred to Mr Bowdler.

His Lordship adjourned the case till next week, for Mr Denney to see the documents connected with the case.

C. L. Thervin v. Lamb, \$44.70.—The plaintiff claimed from the defendant for wine supplied, viz. brandy and champagne. When the case was first called, the plaintiff was not in Court, but when he did appear, His Lordship said he had hoped he would not have been here.

The plaintiff then proved his claim, but the defendant said the wines were not supplied to him; they were sent to the house for the plaintiff's own use during the time he was living in her house.

After hearing a few words of the case only, His Lordship said he was astonished to see the plaintiff coming into Court again in a case like this. He was astonished at his want of good sense and consideration for the decency of this Court. This was a most disgraceful case, and he would not hear more of it. He had had enough of it. The plaintiff of his own accord, as His Lordship was going to try a case of this kind in a Court of Justice.

THE "HELICON" CASE.

The following is the continuation of the judgment delivered by the Chief Justice in the above case. It will be found of interest, bearing as it does on the status of Consuls in this Colony.

I have stated the material facts, I have also given the arguments of counsel to the best of my ability, not professing to quote them, but to state their purport, as with the proceedings before me I understood to be their scope.

It remains for me to state the questions which after mature consideration appear to me to arise.

1.—As to the objection that the Imperial Act of 1852 repealed (or suspended as to the United States at least) the Ordinance of 1850, the arguments on both sides are very ingenious—and the question is whether the jurisdiction of the magistrate is not entirely taken away?

2.—On the face of the commitment and of the proceedings produced on the writ of *certiorari*, is it or is it not bad?

It is stated to be the complaint of Richard Braun N. 37.

I see nothing in the Act to authorise a constable to be the complainant against a deserter from a foreign ship. Must not the master or mate or consul be such complainant, and does not this objection vitiate the conviction and commitment?

This case comes before the Court on the return to the *habeas corpus*, the commitment, and on the magistrate's return to the writ of *certiorari*, so that all the proceedings are before the Court to discharge the prisoner if upon the face of the writ it be bad or if upon any of the proceedings returned the conviction and commitment be bad.

A writ of error does not lie for a defect in proceedings before magistrates, but it lies expressly laid down in Corner, the only work of authority recognised in the Crown Office in England, at p. 64, that the writ of *certiorari* lies in the only means by which a conviction of proceedings in a Magistrate's Court by a Superior Court can be obtained, and it lies as well after judgment as before.

Of course an aggrieved party may also resort to an appeal in cases in which the appeal is given, but the power of the Court is not so complete over the person or generally so conclusive in an appeal as it is under a writ of *habeas corpus*.

Upon all the papers before the Court, looking at the proceedings, I find that Braun, the alleged complainant, not sworn, states that he arrested the defendants at different places and at different times as being deserters, but even he did not allege that Clark was a deserter.

It was, then, although no charge on oath or otherwise was before the Court, that the men were deserters, that statements were taken down from each defendant. What then was said was improperly, prematurely, and for no purpose, but Clark said nothing to conclude the defence which in due time Mr Denney made.

After that the master was examined, I presume that he produced the ship's articles. It does not appear in the proceedings whether any man of the name of Clark signed them, but it is quite clear that there was no proof that the defendant Clark signed, for the captain admitted that although he had certified that he had seen all the men sign he could not swear positively that he saw any of the men sign. If he did not, was there any legal evidence that Clark was under articles or can be said to be a deserter if not under legal contract at the date when he left the ship?

Under these circumstances, could the magistrate presume against Clark—not being proved to be under contract—that he was a deserter?

4.—The proceedings upon this case are jointly against seven seamen, each for being a deserter, each arrested at a different time, and so far as the log evidence of desertion produced goes, Clark alone deserted on the 22nd of October. No one else deserted on that day, and the proceedings disclose no evidence of conspiracy or agreement by him or of his having any common design with any other person charged; there was nothing in the act of desertion of a joint character.

Was it not clear that Clark ought to have been charged and proceeded against separately for his desertion? Is it not this the right of every man when there is a criminal charge against him? Is it not that, would Clark not be entitled to call the other seamen, the only witnesses he could call in his favour? Is not the proceeding bad and the conviction bad, where the accused is refused liberty to call his witnesses on the ground that they have been so if improperly joined in one charge with him?

5.—If, as it has been contended, the proceeding was a mere civil proceeding, to compel a specific performance, then have not the Acts and Ordinances as to evidence entitled defendants themselves, each and every one of them, to be examined for themselves and for each other?

6.—When Clark, through Mr Denney, set up the conduct of the captain in improperly refusing to order a boat to save a seaman who had fallen overboard, was it not then the function of the magistrate to hear matters that occurred on the high seas; and to have considered, and to have decided on the evidence when taken whether such action by the captain on the high seas constituted a sufficient reason for Clark's leaving the ship in Hongkong?

If the proceedings were of a non-criminal character, then could not Clark himself as well as his co-defendants claim as of right to give such testimony?

Would not these considerations render the conviction bad, and the commitment founded on it bad?

7.—From a correspondence between the magistrate and the United States Consul annexed to the return to the writ of *certiorari*, I find that the magistrate informed the Consul that he purposed (i.e. had decided) to enter into an inquiry on allegations by Clark as to the *Helicon*, and courteously invited the Consul's attendance, but the Consul required the attendance of all the men charged before the magistrate at the Consulate, and he undertook the inquiry into that excuse of the men for deserting themselves from the ship out of the hands of the magistrate, and made a quasi return in a note to the magistrate dated November 2nd, in which he stated that no attempt was made to rescue the men who had fallen overboard, was entirely unfounded. The Consul concludes with a request that the men (including Clark) may be detained and delivered to the master under Ordinance 4 of 1850, and thus the inquiry which the magistrate had purposed was stopped.

This interference of the Consul with the regular procedure in a criminal case inaugurated by himself by his offer of a reward in order that Clark might be presented to the magistrate under Ordinance 4 of 1850, appears to me to be an act by the Consul authorised neither by law nor comity.

This case was before a tribunal authorised to administer oaths. The Consul has no authority to administer oaths in such a matter which can be used in any English Court of law, and any proceeding by him in reference to a criminal charge is entirely invalid in a Court of criminal procedure.

The wide I used on hearing the arguments as to the status of a Consul in the country were more guarded than those of Chancellor Kent, one of the greatest of American jurists. At 1 Kent's Com., 51, it is said "In England it has been held that a Consul is not a judicial officer, and they have there no judicial powers," he says Waldron v. Combs, III. Tan, 162, an English authority in which the certificate of a Consul even in a civil case was held inadmissible to prove the proceeds of a sale at auction. Chief-Justice Mansfield said, "The Vice Consul is no judicial officer."

There is no rule in the English law which makes his certificate evidence. He has been supposed to be an agent, and he is so for some purposes. So is an auctioneer in this country, nevertheless his certificate is no evidence in this country. If it is so in a civil case a *fortiori* it is so in a criminal proceeding involving the liberty of a British subject as Clark is.

I understand that what I said during the hearing has given umbrage to some persons whose respect I recommend such persons to read carefully the case I have just cited, and 1 Kent's Com., pp. 51 and 63, and Judge Bouvier's Law Dictionary, the 14th edition of which printed at Philadelphia, 1872, is now before me. Under Article "Consul," par. 6, the learned American jurist says—"A Consul is clothed only with authority for commercial purposes; and in par. 7, he says—"In civil and criminal cases they are subject to the local laws in the same manner with other foreign residents owing a temporary allegiance to the State." Gentlemen disaffected with these citations will find abundant forage for search in the numerous works collected by the learned American jurist at the end of his article "Consul."

The certificate of the Consul is therefore invalid for all judicial purposes.

Instead of refusing any recognition of this interference by the Consul I find this entry signed by the magistrate in the proceedings, "Defendant in Court further proceeded till the 5th November, pending the termination of the Consul's inquiry and to be let out from time to time as the Consul may want them."

This entry, forming part of the proceedings, as well as the correspondence, shows that the magistrate had yielded to the Consul's claim to hear and determine and report in reference to the deserting, as evidence concluding the case.

The correspondence is imperfect; it does not contain a letter from the magistrate for which by his second letter he makes October the Consul thanks him.

The magistrate on the 2nd of November received a note from the Consul—I cannot call it a formal report or a certificate—in which he says that the charge made of criminal desertion in the captain as to the deserting man is entirely unfounded.

Now this inquiry was extra-judicial, and was not on oath, and if the law I have cited (the case quoted is English, the text-writers are American) is good, the informal note, even if it amounts to a certificate, was not receivable for any purpose by the magistrate. I find, and when Mr Denney attempted to cross-examine the captain in reference to the deserting of the seaman from the ship, it is recorded by the magistrate himself that "the Court decided that that matter was irrelevant, having been inquired into and settled by the Consul, and not as affecting the position of the defendant." This acceptance of the statement made by the Consul of the conclusion to which he had come was contrary to law, to which a law can receive nothing but what is on oath or of record or expressly made evidence by statute adversely against a person as the ground of his conviction. The statement by the Consul is fallacious, neither of these descriptions of evidence, and only grounds for judicial knowledge, which differs entirely from that knowledge

which is held sufficient in ordinary matters of the world. Even if the Consul's statement were the statement of a fact, it must be valuable in a Court of law because unsupported by the sanction of an oath, but the statement is not a statement of fact, but an opinion which he had formed, and which may have been based on evidence or be wrong, and it is impossible for the magistrate to predicate what the purpose of the evidence would be or how it would affect his judicial mind, after it should have been given in coming to a decision as to whether Clark had a sufficient reason for leaving the ship. Judges ought always to bear in mind the great distinction—that ordinary knowledge does not amount to judicial knowledge, as pointed out in 4 Burr. 25-31 et seq.

The view that a Consul's certificate is insufficient, is absolutely valueless, is fully sustained by the American authorities of Johnson v. ship *Coriolanus*, Crabb's Rep., p. 289, cited in 2 Parsons on Shipping, p. 92, in notes, where Professor Parsons (the respected successor of Mr. Story) says that it was held that the facts that led to the setting forth of the crew of a ship was not imprisonment and afforded no justification for the master, and that the Court would examine the whole question *de novo* and determine whether the imprisonment was justifiable. This is as good English as it is sound American law. Parsons' language covers and concludes the present case so far as it affirms the utter valuelessness of the Consul's note to the Police Magistrate.

Is not therefore Clark entitled to have the conviction and commitment declared invalid and void by reason that the magistrate accepted the Consul's note as conclusive against all as to Clark's desertion? I question if it is not to exclude evidence on oath which he tendered.

8.—Again Mr Denney tendered evidence to prove the unseaworthiness of the ship as a sufficient reason for Clark's leaving her. Now, not to rely on Ellimull's Act, I find in 2 Parsons on Shipping, p. 79 (an American law book which we constantly use in this Court) that unseaworthiness is a sufficient defence to the charges of deserting to commit a revolt by compelling the master to return to port, and further the learned author cites United States v. Anton, 2 Sum. 18. If that be an answer to a charge of mutiny, is not the same defence to be received in evidence as a sufficient reason for leaving the ship? If it affects the position of a man on his trial for mutiny, and is a good defence, is it not a good defence when put forward merely as a sufficient reason for leaving his vessel by a man otherwise liable to incarceration as a deserter?

9.—But to my mind the defence of Clark opens far wider considerations.

In 1801, in days when almost every sea captain in the Royal Navy or in the mercantile marine was a rough old salt, Lord Kenyon in *Lombard v. Stephens*, 8 Esp. 208, decided that if the act of the captain in leaving the ship, and the necessary desertion was even ratified by his wages. His Lordship said "the duties of master and servant (as captain and seaman) are reciprocal, from the latter obedience and respect, from the master protection and good treatment." It seems to me therefore that it was open to Clark to allege and prove the absence of such protection and good treatment as a sufficient excuse. Now the mate, who manifestly has the confidence of the master, admitted that he had ill-treated Clark, that he had cut him and had shoved him about, and he could not say how often he had done this. This was admitted by the mate, apparently not willingly, without one word of accusation against Clark that his conduct had not been quite good or of any excuse.

I add to this, not as evidence but as an element showing occasion for inquiry, that the Consul on the 2nd of November informed this magistrate that he considered the complaint of a seaman, one of the deserters, of ill-treatment had been proved and that he should discharge him with three months' extra pay.

Again, Clark had a right to set up any threat of personal violence by the mate uttered before the case closed as tending to create in his mind the dread of that "particular hell" which he, the mate, said he would give all, including Clark, when he got them on board. Clark had a right to have the admitted ill-use inquired into, to have the probable result of the going on board considered, and to have the past conduct of the captain proved to show whether he had willingly allowed a man overboard to be drowned, inquired into, whether his ill-conduct towards Trevel which the Consul reported against fully inquired into, not for the purpose of punishing the captain or the mate or to put them on their trial for that, but simply and only as elements showing a sufficient reason for Clark's refusal to go on board, which the Ordinance gives him a right to adduce.

10.—Now what is a sufficient reason? I should say such an apprehension as a reasonable man might entertain that if he went on board he would not have that protection and good treatment to which Lord Kenyon pronounced that he was entitled.

I am of opinion that Clark is entitled to every branch of inquiry to establish a defence to that extent, and that if he made out such reasonable ground for apprehension for his safety and freedom from cruelty he would be entitled to be discharged, having given a sufficient reason for refusing to go on board.

I am not sure that the protection and good treatment to be expected from a master now does not include more of kindness than it did in 1801. By the present army regulations an officer who strikes a soldier is liable to be cashiered, and by the Articles of War for the Navy, sections 16, 27, 28, and 48, all punishments other than regulated punishments, all profane oaths, outrages, or actions in derogation of good morals are to be punished by dismissal from the service—these are rules to protect the soldier and the seaman in the Royal Navy, and is the British seaman in the mercantile marine service not to be subjected to as much as he is entitled to be subjected to, rather than be habitually subjected to scandalous treatment from which Her Majesty's soldiers and sailors are protected by law?

Is not the time come when if masters of merchantmen are not gentlemen, it shall be the interest of wisdom that they shall be at least gentle? Are men entitled to master their own passions? Are masters of merchant ships required to prove qualifications to manage a ship? Is it not also incumbent on owners to see to it that their masters can manage their ships as well as to be managed, and not merely to be managed?

force as if they were brutes; and now when civilization is happily reaching the lowest state of life, are seamen, educated as many of them are, to be forced to remain, with their ships even under the reasonable risk of ill-treatment?

I now come to the conclusion which anxious deliberation (continuous so far as other pressing occupations have permitted) has led me to. I would rather not decide the very ingenious question as to want of jurisdiction by the implied repeal of No. 4 of 1850, raised by Mr. Francis, because it is unnecessary to do so, and because I think it is a high question of State and international law better left to more responsible authority.

But I do decide that the conviction and commitment are bad on the face of each, and also that they are bad because the Consul's note of a non-judicial proceeding was received as conclusive by the magistrate in a judicial proceeding, and he declined to inquire into the matter *de novo*, as ought to have been done according to 2 Parsons, 92, in notes, what I have already cited.

Also because the magistrate refused to receive evidence of want of seaworthiness of the ship which was tendered to him.

The Attorney-General was, so far as I know, right in saying that the magistrate had no means of himself making or directing an inquiry. The evidence was tendered to him; not as an offensive weapon to affect owners or captains injuriously, but simply as a shield for the accused, and as showing "a sufficient reason" why Clark should not be punished. I am of opinion that it was open to him to tender evidence of unseaworthiness tending to show that he reasonably feared for his life in case of his return to the ship.

Also because the magistrate gave no weight to the threat of the mate as to a "particular hell" prepared for Clark on his return to the ship, and to the fact that it was in the mate's power to realise his threat.

Also generally because he refused to receive the evidence of the other men, who I think were improperly charged jointly with Clark, as to acts of cruelty, and generally on all the other questions raised as to whether the state of circumstances was such as to give Clark reasonable cause to apprehend a withdrawal of due protection and good treatment in case of his return to the ship.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A PREMATURE GROWL.

To the Editor of the "CHINA MAIL."

Hongkong, Dec. 3, 1877.

SIR,—As the *Powen*, in taking the place of the *White Cloud* on the line between this and Meiseo, is notified to leave that place at 7 a.m., and here at 1 p.m., it reminded me of your statement, made on the trial trip of the *Powen* after a new cylinder was put into her, to the effect that her speed now was slow only by a few minutes to that of the *Kinahan*. Unless the *Powen's* time of starting has been fixed for the convenience of the shippers of cargo, owing to her much larger capacity for it, you have done an injustice to the "fast boat" by your statement above referred to.

"INSTEAD OF THE TIME PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED."

WHY?

To the Editor of the "CHINA MAIL."

Hongkong, Dec. 4, 1877.

SIR,—Can any one explain why there was no inquest on the body of the Assistant Engineer of H.M.S. *Swinger*? The man died in the hospital here. There could not well have been a medical certificate of death from natural causes, and if not, on what authority was the man interred. I am not aware that accidents on board H.M.S. ships are not to be inquired into, as are other accidents. It would be interesting to know what communications, if any, were made to the Coroner on the subject.

Yours,

LEX.

POOR JACK—DRUNK AGAIN.

To the Editor of the "CHINA MAIL."

Hongkong, Dec. 4, 1877.

SIR,—Some few days back you reported a case in which a chair-coolie was caught and punished for taking advantage of a poor sailor; and it strikes me that there are many cases of a similar kind, with this difference, that the rascally coolies get their ill-got gains, while Jack gets—fined. Could not some special arrangement be made by Superintendent Greagh for the better protection of the many unfortunate Jacks who are silly and thoughtless enough not to protect themselves?

Yours,

A LANDLUBBER.

ST. ANDREW'S BALL, 1877.

(To the Editor of the "CHINA MAIL.")

Hongkong, Dec. 4, 1877.

SIR,—Few Scotchmen will cavil at the opinion expressed in your issue of Saturday last, that a wise course had been adopted in celebrating St. Andrew's Day with a ball instead of a banquet. The latter, in our colony like ours, demands our first consideration, and as they are unable to participate in the social pleasures usually identified with a big dinner, and a certain quantity of very tame speculating, appears to me a policy of exclusive selfishness much to be deprecated.

Public balls are of such rare occurrence in Hongkong, that they invariably command the interest and patronage of the whole community. When a ball is given by the members of a distinct nationality, here as elsewhere, success is almost assured, the promoters working well together and proving the truth of the adage that "unity is strength." It is a matter of fact that no people in the world, whether at home or abroad, have been more successful in ball-giving than the Scotch. The reason, in a great measure, must be attributed to the retention of national characteristics in all their celebrations, without unduly infringing on the privileges which cosmopolitan circumstances have a right to expect. The Caledonian Ball in London is admittedly one of the attractions of the season; and the grand ball held annually at Inverness and Edinburgh during the tourist months, and supported extensively by English and Foreign residents, are only equalled in popularity by similar celebrations in New York, Montreal, Melbourne, and other great cities, which the genius and indomitable perseverance of the Scot have done so much to raise to greatness.

Under these circumstances, and taking into consideration the incidental character of the Committee of Management, it was only to be expected that the ball given in the City Hall last Friday night would prove an unequalled success. Were these

expectations realised? I think not, Sir. An ordinary ball it was satisfactory, as a celebration of a national character, held in honor of Scotland's patron saint, truth compels me to record it as an unequalled failure. The reasons for this opinion are not far to seek, and will, I think, be endorsed by every true Scotchman in the colony.

Your admirable description of the decorations of the City Hall, will be perused with much interest, and the praise you award to Lieutenants Walker and McCullum, who had the lion's share of the work in this department, will be endorsed by every Scot in Hongkong. The superb decorations were almost the only Scotch feature in this so-called National (?) festival.

I do not know who was the framer of the programme of dances; or what evil genius controlled the bandmaster in his musical selections. The programme, as I said, consisting altogether of 17 dances, was made up of 6 Valses, 4 Galops, 3 Lancers, 1 Quadrille, 1 Schottische, 1 Mazurka, and 1 Reel. Leaving the Reel out of the question, the programme would have suited admirably at—Buckingham Palace; but I would venture to suggest that it was rather too select for the mixed population of a colonial settlement; that is, of course, presuming that it was framed for the community at large, and not for a select few. And then how can the exclusion of Scotch dances, (always saving, and excepting the solitary Reel) be explained or justified? If such beautiful national dances as the "Caledonians" and "Highland Schottisches" are good enough for the gentlemen of the British Empire, at the Caledonian Ball in London, surely they ought not to be deemed unworthy by the petty aristocracy of Hongkong! The dances of Scotland are justly celebrated, and universally popular. Yet on Friday night, (saving the "Lord of Lorne" Lancers, which may, or may not be Scotch, and the Reel) the national music was as rigidly excluded as the national dances.

A selection of Scotch music was admirably rendered by the Band of the 28th Regiment during the intervals for supper; but very few had the pleasure of enjoying this addition to the programme. The names of 80 gentlemen were published as officiating stewards, and I must admit that many of them worked hard in various departments, to bring the affair to a successful issue. Still I think it is pertinent to ask, why was one (or more if necessary) of these gentlemen not appointed to act as Master of the Ceremonies? M. O.'s may possibly be out of date nowadays at public balls, but the necessity for such an official to arrange the set dances was never more apparent than at the St. Andrew's Ball. Unhappily there is a great lack of breeding and good manners in a certain set of Hongkong society, and this was evidenced only too painfully on Friday night by this "set" forming themselves into cliques for the figure dances, and thus excluding all outsiders who were unable to form a party among themselves. It is not a pleasing sight to the persons forming the three sides of the "Lancers" deliberately break up the set and walk down the room, simply because the other side of the square has been innocently once allied by a lady and gentleman not members of the clique. I observed this done more than once at the St. Andrew's Ball. That old-fashioned institution a Master of the Ceremonies would have effectively prevented this glaring outrage on good taste.

The supper arrangements were not altogether satisfactory, the room being inconveniently crowded; but considering the large number present a scrambling net-out was almost inevitable, and under all circumstances probably excusable. It is not in any cavilling spirit that the above remarks have been penned. As a Scotchman, and proud of the name, I am only desirous of seeing what are termed Scotch celebrations made worthy of Scotland and the Scottish community. I have attended Scotch balls in nearly all the quarters of the globe, and am thankful to say that the great event of last Friday was the most wretched apology for a St. Andrew's Day celebration I ever witnessed. But then this highly-favored community is quite fifty years in advance of the age, which may account for many peculiarities. It must not be inferred that I advocate exclusive principles. Far from anything of the kind. The Committee were wise in inviting the whole community, and had a little

Mails.



STEAM FOR

Singapore, Penang, Point de Galle, Aden, Suez, Malta, Brindisi, Ancona, Venice, Mediterranean Ports, Southampton, and London.

Also, Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship **WALLAH**, Captain J. O. Baber, will leave this on THURSDAY, the 6th December, at Noon.

For further Particulars, apply to
A. LIND, Superintendent.
Hongkong, November 23, 1877. de6

Occidental & Oriental Steam-Ship Company.

TAKING THROUGH CARGO AND PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED STATES AND RUSSIA, IN CONNECTION WITH THE CENTRAL

and

UNION PACIFIC AND CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANIES

and

ATLANTIC STEAMERS.

THE S.S. "BELGIO" will be despatched for San Francisco via Yokohama, on SATURDAY, the 8th December, at 3 p.m., taking Cargo and Passengers for Japan, the United States and Europe.

Connection is made at Yokohama, with Steamers from Shanghai.
Freight will be received on Board until 4 p.m. of the 7th December. PARCEL PACKAGES will be received at the Office until 5 p.m. same day. All Parcel Packages should be marked in full; value of same is required.

A Reduction is made on Return Passage Tickets.

For further information as to Freight of Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 81, Queen's Road Central.
G. B. EMORY, Agent.
Hongkong, November 27, 1877. de6

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOTS POSTS FRANCAIS.

STEAM FOR

SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA,

POINT DE GALLE,

ADEN, SUEZ, ISMAILIA, PORT

SAID, NAPLES, AND

MARSEILLES.

Also,

PONDICHERRY, MADRAS, CAL-

CUTTA AND BOMBAY.

ON THURSDAY, the 13th December, 1877, at Noon, the Company's S.S. **PELHO**, Commandant LINCOTTE, with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPORE, and CARGO, will leave this Port for the above places.

Cargo and Specie will be registered for London as well as for Marseilles, and accepted to transit through Marseilles for the principal places of Europe.

Cargo will be received on board until 4 p.m., Specie and Parcels until 3 p.m. on the 12th December, 1877. (Parcels are not to be sent on board; they must be left at the Agency's Office.)

Contents and value of Packages are required.

For further particulars, apply at the Company's Office.

H. DU POUY, Agent.

Hongkong, December 3, 1877. de13

U. S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA

OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND ROUTING

AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamer **CITY OF TOKIO**, will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on WEDNESDAY, the 13th December, at Noon, taking Passengers and Freight, for Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and Indian Oceans of the United States via Overland Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all transatlantic lines of Steamers.

A REDUCTION OF TWENTY PER CENT on regular rates is granted to OFFICERS of the ARMY and NAVY, and MEMBERS of the CIVIL and CONSULAR SERVICES in COMMISSION.

Freight will be received on board until 4 p.m., 13th December. Parcel Packages will be received at the Office until 5 p.m. same day. All Parcel Packages should be marked in full; value of same is required.

Consular Invoices to accompany Overland Cargo should be sent to the Company's Office in Sealed Envelopes addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information as to Freight and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 81, Praya Central.

RUSSELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, November 27, 1877. de13

NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES.

BRITISH STEAMER **BERTHA**, LANCLET, Master, FROM LONDON, PENANG, AND SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above Steamer are hereby informed, that their Goods are being landed and stored at their risk in the Godowns of the Under- signed, from whence delivery may be obtained.

Consignees wishing to take delivery of their Goods from the Boats alongside the Wharf are at liberty to do so.

Goods remaining in store after the 9th Instant will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless written notice to the contrary is given before To-day, the 3rd Instant, at 1 p.m.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by Wm. PUGST & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, December 3, 1877. de9

FROM LONDON AND PORTS OF CALL.

THE Steamship **Gordon Castle**, having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk by the Under- signed into their Godowns, whence and/or from the Wharf or Boats, delivery may be obtained.

Optional Goods will be forwarded to Shanghai, unless notice to the contrary is given before Noon To-morrow, the 3rd Instant.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the 10th Instant will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, December 2, 1877. de10

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s S.S. **TEHRAN**.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-named Vessel, from Bombay and Intermediate Ports, in connection with the Steamer **KASHGAR** from Calcutta, are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed, and stored at their risk in the Company's Godowns, at West Point, whence delivery can be obtained from this date.

Goods not delivered by the 10th Instant will be subject to rent.

ADAM LIND, Superintendent.

Hongkong, December 3, 1877. de10

NOTICES OF FIRMS.

NOTICE.

WE have this Day placed the MANAGEMENT of our Business in the hands of Mr. WILLIAM ROSS, who has been in the employment of the Firm for the last Six Years.

G. FALCONER & Co., Watchmakers, Jewellers, &c.

Hongkong, November 30, 1877. de7

NOTICE.

MR. CHARLES DAVID BOTTOMLEY was admitted a PARTNER in our Firm on the 1st July, 1877.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

Hongkong, September 22, 1877.

NOTICE.

I HAVE this Day Established myself at this Port as a GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT.

J. Y. VERNON SHAW.

Hongkong, November 1, 1877. m91

NOTICE.

THE Business of SHARE and GENERAL BROKERS, hitherto conducted in my name, will now be carried on under the Style of COHEN & HEATON, Mr. ALEXANDER MACGLASHAN HEATON having this Day become a PARTNER therein.

CHAS. C. COHEN.

Hongkong, November 1, 1877. jal

NOTICE.

I HAVE this Day admitted Mr. WILLIAM LEGG as a PARTNER in my Business, which will henceforth be conducted under the Style of HUGHES & LEGG.

W. KERFOOT HUGHES.

Hongkong, November 1, 1877. jal

NOTICE.

MR. JAMES ATTON MANN is authorized to Sign our Firm by Procuration.

GEFF & Co.

Canton, November 1, 1877. jal

NOTICE.

I HAVE this Day Established myself at this Port as a GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT.

W. SCHRIEVER.

Halphong, November 9, 1877. de13

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE.

SECTIONS B & C of Inland Lot No. 51, Area 9880 Square Feet.

With the 7 DWELLING HOUSES erected thereon, Nos. 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, and 47, WYNDHAM STREET. Annual Crown Rent, \$108.

Island Lot, No. 90.

Measuring to the North 80 ft. South 88 ft. East 201 ft. West 167 ft. Area 14,720 Square Feet.

With the 4 DWELLING HOUSES erected thereon.

3 Fronting GORDON STREET. Annual Crown Rent, \$174.64.

For particulars, apply to J. J. DOS REMEDIOS & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, December 1, 1877. de13

FOR SALE.

SHAMSHAN CANTON.

THE Desirable PROPERTY known as Lot No. 46, consisting of Commodious DWELLING HOUSE, OFFICES and SILE GODOWN.

For particulars, apply to G. M. SMITH, General.

October 13, 1877.

NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES.

BRITISH STEAMER **BERTHA**, LANCLET, Master, FROM LONDON, PENANG, AND SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above Steamer are hereby informed, that their Goods are being landed and stored at their risk in the Godowns of the Under- signed, from whence delivery may be obtained.

Consignees wishing to take delivery of their Goods from the Boats alongside the Wharf are at liberty to do so.

Goods remaining in store after the 9th Instant will be subject to rent.

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W. KERFOOT HUGHES.

Hongkong, November 1, 1877. jal

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